GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4367
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
THREAT FROM ISLAMIC MILITANTS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia joined hands with China and other countries to set up an anti-terrorism centre in the area bordering Afghanistan to tackle the threat from Islamic militants;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including India`s role in it; and

(c) the extent to which India has been able to get support from other countries for tackling terrorism in the world?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b) According to the Declaration of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) signed on June 15, 2001 at Shanghai by the Presidents of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People`s Republic of China, the Kyrghyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, all the Member States of the SCO will closely cooperate with each other in establishing the SCO anti-terrorism centre in Bishkek of Kyrghyzstan.

India is not a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

(c) A number of countries share India`s concerns about Terrorism and these have been taken up in bilateral discussions. India has also circulated a draft of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the UN General Assembly on which discussions are continuing.